before 4

we proceed next in order to mention the influence of ~~particular~~ situations in pro-
-ducing diseases.

These are diversified by country, town soil, by vicinity to mountains, marshes deserts, mill ponds, & the seashore. After having taken notice of the influence of each of them, ~~upon health~~, I shall mention the effects of a change of situation upon health & life.

1 The country is more or less favourable to health, & life according as it is more or less cleared or cultivated. A new country is always healthy. This is the case in the wildest grounds, provided they are sheltered from the rays of the sun by large & numerous bodies of trees. In the Delaware state and in some parts

of North Carolina men often work for weeks together in the cedar swamps in making Shingles in the summer & Boatmen without contracting the least indisposition, whilst all the neighbouring Country exposed to the action of the Sun is afflicted with re==mitting & intermitting fevers. The least aperture in the woods through which the rays of the Sun can act upon the ground destroys the healthiness of these situations. A memorable instance of which is mentioned ~~is mentioned~~ in a letter from Dr Moodie to Mr White an apothecary at Bath. He says 1500 soldiers encamped at Ticuzera in the East Indies in Septemr 1801 in a Valley covered with lofty trees. no exhalation

took place in it except at mid day when it was very great. After being there 20 days they embarked. The seeds of a malignant fever ~~inhaled~~ created by the short and transient action of the sun upon the earth covered with materials for putrefaction, and inhaled by those soldiers, were excited into action by their exercise and soon after, 500 of them amongst whom were ~~two~~ a number of officers perished with a fever. Within 200 yards of the above forest Dr Moodie says a regiment of Artillery enjoyed good health. They were encamped in a high and healthy situation. The first act of clearing a Country is generally a signal for bilious fevers provided the cutting down the timber opens a wet soil to the action of the sun, or opens

a passage for putrid exhalations from a neighbouring river, Creek or millpond. a Country thus opened, will remain healthy for many years if improvements become stationary. This is very much the case in ~~the States of~~ Delaware, Maryland & in all the States to the southward of the Potomac where large possessions in lands render it impracticable for the cultivation, to keep pace with the clear-ing of a Country, and hence the sickli-ness of those States; but in the northern and middle States where Cultivation which consists in draining Compounds, confining overflowing streams of water, and dissipating moisture in grass & grapes, I say where this cultivation needs the clearing a new Country, it

V The Diseases in Country situations are chiefly inflammatory & bilious fevers and particularly ~~what~~ that form of the latter, which is called Dysentery, but to which I shall ~~hereafter~~ in another place give the name of the intestinal state of fever. —

soon becomes healthy. The State of Connecticut about the year ~~1730~~ 1730 was nearly as subject to bilious fevers as any of the Southern States, but they have yielded to that general cultivation which has been introduced into that country by the small & equal divisions of landed property, which have taken place in that enlightened & happy State. Towns & Cities are the jails & graves of the human species. I have ~~their~~ vices & crimes to the moralists and the Officers of justice; my business is only to take notice of the ~~moral~~ causes of their diseases. These are ~~their ill effects of these~~ ~~non atmos-~~ ~~phere~~ an atmosphere ~~phere~~ rendered impure by the number of persons who constantly inhale it, by the exhalations of dirty streets, docks, yards gardens & various offensive manufactories, and

and by this great heat occasioned by the reflection of the rays of the Sun from pavements & houses, and the subsequent confinement of the hot air. ~~But the~~ 2ly. ~~another~~ cause of the unhealthiness of cities, ~~the~~ arises from Animals & vegetables upon which their inhabitants feed, being forced by strong manure, are more disposed to put on a putrid disposition than animals & vegetables raised in a natural soil, & at a distance from cities. 3ly. and Lastly the water in cities, from the filth of sheds, gutters & privies descending into the earth & mixing with it, is a fruitful source of disease particularly of bowel complaints. In consequence of the operation of all these causes it has been stated by Dr Price that in large

Dr Price adds further that a man loses a portion of his health or life who settles in London before he is 30 years of Age, for the System at that period acquires a Vigor which enables it to resist the numerous Causes of Diseases that have been mentioned. It was probably from a knowledge and painful Contemplation of these facts that the poet Mr Cowper exclaims -

cities one person dies in every 19. 22 or 23, every year. In moderate sized towns he supposes the mortality to be one, in from 24 to 28 of the inhabitants - in villages one in from 40 to 50. In London he tells us one half die under 3 years old, and in Stockholm & Vienna one half under 2 years old. In manchester one half die under 5, In northampton one half under 10 - But mark! the difference between the mortality of cities & towns, and a country situation. In a part of the country in Yorkshire in England, one half of all who are born live to be ~~sixty~~ sixty & forty years of age. Well ~~the poet~~ might ~~force a knowledge of these facts~~ cry out "Man made Cities, but God

made the country." He is I believe correct in this assertion, for the first city we read of in ~~a city~~ history was built not by a man only, but by a murderer, ~~in order to by a murderer of a brother~~, in order probably that he might destroy in the business, pleasures & sorrow of a city, the remorse he felt in consequence of having imbrued his hands in the blood of his brother. The diseases induced by the causes that have been enumerated are bilious fevers - consumptions - and all the train of nervous diseases. It is remarkable the Dysentery is less common in cities than in country situations, & that persons who have lived in cities are less apt to be affected with it than persons who have lived in the country. While

I was at the Jersey College a Dysentery broke out among the students, ~~I think~~ in the year 1759, but not a single boy from New York nor Phil.a was affected with it. I have since ascribed it to the city boys having previously lived upon more cordial diet such as tea, Coffee & Wine than the students from Country situations who at that time lived ~~chiefly~~ before they came to the College upon milk ~~and~~ ~~chiefly~~ ~~even~~ ~~more~~ oblige less cordial articles of food, by which means their bowels were in a ~~greater~~ state of predis-position from debility to be affected by the disease. — Dr Cleghorns mentions a similar fact. He tells us that a Dysentery prevailed at one time ~~among~~ among

the poor inhabitants of a Village in Minorca, who had fed for some time upon Damaged wheat, while a number of Soldiers who were quartered in the same Village, and lived upon cordial provisions escaped it. I have seen many cases of sporadic dysentery in Philadᵃ but have never once seen it epidemic.

3 Situations are influenced with respect to their healthiness by the nature of their soil. A Sandy soil by retaining more heat, and when white, by reflecting it, disposes to all the diseases of hot weather, and to diseases of the eyes.

4 Mountainous situations are in general healthy, and the longest lived people are found in them, but there are now & then exceptions to this remark. The British Soldiers who occupy the heights in the

neighbourhood of the City of Calcutta, are always more sickly than the soldiers who are quartered in the Vallies below them, and hence ~~they occupy~~ those heights are occupied in rotation by them. Dr Victor M'Clen relates a similar fact of the greater unhealthiness of a high & more mountainous situation in St Domingo than below it. The mountains in these cases arrest the exhalations from the Vallies in their ascent from or descent to the earth. It is certain mountains more especially when they are covered with trees arrest clouds of rain. Of this Mr Volney mentions a striking instance in his travels into Syria. A hill near

level of the country around ~~in~~ it near Petersburg in Virginia upon which it is always more sickly than in the plains below it.

a monastery ~~whic~~ upon which no rain had fallen for many years, was plentifully watered with it upon planting it with a number of stately pine trees. There is a hill 80 feet above the
5 vicinity to marshy grounds ~~rendering~~ a situation unhealthy, especially if ~~they~~ it ~~be to be~~ be exposed to the winds that pass over those grounds. ~~The diseases to a~~ ~~are conveyed when~~ Intermitting and bilious fevers follow the erection of mill dams very where unless the exhalations from them are restrained by suffering a number of forest trees to remain around them, or unless this place are supplied by planting around them

V Of the unhealthiness of a situation near a marshy country, the Revd Dr Crosse informed me of the following fact. In the year 1783 he married 14 couple at a place called Midway in Georgia. In his visit to that place in 1810, 23 years afterwards he found but one of those 14 couple not seperated by death.

VI Is the Salt water near the shore impregnated with the carcass of living & the the component parts of dead fish washed there by the waves of the Sea? It is certain intermitting & bilious fevers are often induced by it in the season for those diseases, and they are the effects we know ~~for~~ of putrid exhalations ~~tions~~

VII The exhalation from woods is supposed to be one third greater from from an equal extent of water — Of course a situation near to them must produce ~~to a worse ye~~ the diseases of a moist Atmosphere when in a simple or compounded state.

trees of rapid growth, mountains, houses and warm water have the same salutary effect in restraining the passage of marsh miasmata, and thereby of preventing their produces diseases. V

6 Vicinity of a town or Country to cleared or woody Countries, by ~~altering~~ its influence upon the temperature of the air, subjects a situation to ~~all~~ the dis- ~~ons~~ moistures A cases that depend upon its sensible qualities. M

7 A situation near the seashore ~~renders~~ predisposes to pulmonary Consumption & Rheumatism. ~~Diseases~~ Even Diseases of all kind assume a more inflammatory Character near the sea, than they discover at a distance from it. It is remarkable the sea air has no such effects at a distance from the shore. Perhaps its morbid effects may be encreased

V may not this arise from the same cause which contaminates the air near the sea shore?

It calling in the action of putrid exhala-
-tions to account for it. There is something specific in its nature. Scorbutic patients often die as soon as they inhale it.

by being mixed with land air, & lessened by the ~~exercise~~ passive exercise ~~upon the~~ imposed upon the System by the motion of the Ship. ~~The exis~~ The exhalations from those places in which the salt and fresh water unite their streams are generally ~~are generally~~ more productive of fevers than the exhalations from bodies consisted only with salt, or fresh water. Perhaps ~~the mixture~~ a change alike unfriendly to health may be induced in the mixture of ~~the air of~~ the sea & land air without

8 There are several situations of a local nature that influence health & life.

1 a residence in Cellars is always unhealthy. Even Servants who spend the day only in Cellar Kitchens soon ~~appear~~ become pale, and disposed to pulmonary Consumption &

✓ The wealthy citizens of ancient Rome never occupied their stone houses until they had been built one year.

Rheumatism.

2 a long residence in ~~the~~ a hospital produces the same effects in the System.

3 a Dwelling house often becomes a source of Disease. 1 from being built of green wood. I have taken notice of this fact in the 4th volume of my inquiries. 2 from being built of stone recently taken out of the ground, and in that state impregnated with matter of a vegetable or mineral nature which undergo such changes by the action of the sun and air upon it, as to emit an unwholsome vapor. 3 from being inhabited too soon after it is plastered or painted. Catarrhs have arisen from the former headache and nervous diseases from the latter cause. 4 from its having a sink in its kitchen or a close

Cellar connected by a stair case with the chambers of the house. The speedy putrefaction of meat, the green mould upon bread, and other vegetable aliments, the speedy rust upon iron utensils, and the hot and offensive odor emitted by green wood when kept in those cellars, all indicate the unwholsome quality of the air which stagnates in them. Of ~~fact in~~ the effects of green wood ~~in~~ when confined during a summer in a close cellar ~~you~~ in producing fevers you will find an instance mentioned in the 4th volume of my inquiries. Sometimes cellars are rendered unhealthy by ~~retain~~ imbibing & retaining rain water from the earth that surrounds them. ~~Co~~ a fever was

V. from privies being placed so near the house as to emit this fator con-
-stantly into them. ~~Cadobols~~ Several members of a family were infected with the yellow fever from this cause in one of the years in which it prevailed in Philad^a.
This fator much oftner produces sickness at stomach and diarrhea. The effluvia from a hogstye, and from a duck pond were ~~was~~ the cause of fever in this city; ~~in~~ many less indispositions I have no doubt have been produced by them.

produced for 20 years in the house of a Clergyman in New Jersey ~~without being~~ from this cause. It was not suspected of being the cause, ~~but~~ until it ceased by his removing into an adja=cent house. 6 from its age especially if it be composed of wood, which when de=caying emits a Vapor which has been known to produce an intermitting fever. This is taken notice of by Dr Haller. 7 from a want of Cleanliness. The filth which pro=duces diseases is generally concealed in a yard, a Cellar, a Closet, or a garret. 8th from small & smokey rooms, ~~So that~~ which oblige the persons who occupy them to open doors & windows in Cold Weather, & thereby expose themselves to Catarrhs which often end in pulmonary Consumptions. 9 from

being too closely surrounded with trees by which means the ~~circulation~~ passage & circulation of ~~the air~~ fresh air through a house is prevented. The air is moreover rendered damp ~~by~~ by the exhalation from the trees, and sometimes in the summer & autumn it is ~~corrupt~~ rendered impure by the putrefaction of the leaves which fall from those trees. 10 from the unwholsome quality of the water consumed by the family that inhabits it. Of this I have known a remarkable instance in this city. These remarks Gent: are highly interesting to the lives of your patients as well as to ~~the~~ your own reputations as physicians. Where a family or a community is exclusively & frequently affected with sickness, some ~~one~~ of the causes that have been mentioned should be suspected of producing it. ~~Thus~~ Gent: as

well as chronic Diseases are often induced by them which are ascribed to other causes. In support of this Opinion I shall mention three facts. In the year 1713 a fever affected all the professors, students, and even the printer of the University of Altdorf in Franconia. These students lived in different parts. In all cases therefore in which diseases resist the remedies that usually cure them, ~~these~~ the local remote cause should be suspected of ~~acting~~ counteracting them, and our patients should be advised to change their habitations.

Let us next inquire ~~into the~~ what dis-cases are produced by a Change of situation.

1 Persons who migrate from one Country to Another, frequently contract fevers by it, especially when

they pass from a Cold to a warm Climate.
Europeans ~~who arrive in our Country in the Autumn~~ are ~~most liable to be~~ often affected by them upon their arrival in our Country. It is remarkable they are more ~~liable to be affected by~~ predisposed to them in the world, than in the first year after their arrival. Perhaps a year residence in our Country is necessary to produce ~~this~~ that predisposition which favours the attack of the fever. It is called a seasoning.

2 Persons who leave a sickly situation in which ~~they~~ they have enjoyed good health, and remove into a healthy situation are often affected with sickness immediately afterwards, which they would probably have escaped, had they remained at home. This must be ascribed to emotion, & a variety of new impressions exciting

the Dormant seeds of a fever into action, which would ~~have~~ otherwise have passed inoffensively out of the body.

3 The Natives & old settlers of sickly ~~localities~~ situations, who ~~have~~ have them for a while, & since during the prevalence of an Epidemic are ~~gen~~ often affected with it in common with new Comers. Dr Dorr of New Orleans informed me that this was generally the case at New Orleans, while the ~~Nat~~ Natives and old settlers who do not withdraw themselves from the habitual inspiration of the miasmata of the yellow fever, always escape it. The same thing takes place in Charleston in South Carolina.

4 Old people who remove from a marshy situation, to a high & healthy Country, frequently die soon afterwards. The stimulus of miasmata

however injurious to young & middle aged persons, becomes in old people one of the substitutes for the decay or loss of other stimuli. The abstraction of this artificial but habitual stimulus I suppose to be the cause of the death of old people. Plants die soon after being removed from the vicinity of marsh exhalations & probably from the same cause.

5 Persons who make long sea voyages are often affected with Catarrhs when they approach land. ~~I crossed the sea with~~ The captain of the vessel in which I went to England in the year 1766 I well remember came into the cabin ~~in~~ in a ~~fit of~~ fine sparkling with joy and congratulated his passengers upon our being near to our wished for port, and gave as a reason for it than he had been sneezing, which he said he had ~~always~~ been subject when he came near to the land in all the voyages he had

1. or ~~and~~ death in many instances ~~in four weeks~~ by sudden-
-ly destroying the excitement of the
System, ~~only~~ but they oftener produce
numbness of the limbs, and in-
-flammation & vesicles upon the
Skin. 2 They produce diseases

~~was~~ made. At this time there was no alteration in the color of the water, nor was a ~~any~~ bird land ~~[illegible]~~ to be seen near our vessel. In ~~two~~ or three days ~~A days~~ ~~two~~ afterwards we arrived in Liverpool.

~~I have taken a good deal of pains to discover whether~~ Thunder & lightning ~~has~~ produce ~~in their~~ ~~in many cases effects in producing~~ ~~disease~~ ~~independently~~ ~~of the terror~~ they create. ~~& of the thoroughly~~ ~~ignorant in the temperature of the air~~ There are some people who are born with, or who acquire a thunder phobia. I have known several such persons in whom the sight of a dark cloud produced the greatest distress, and the sound of thunder, sickness, cold sweats & fainting. We had a lady some years ago in this city [Mrs Reynolds] who used to exhibit all the appearances of a person in the agonies

of death during a ~~storm~~ thunder gust. Such was the debility it induced upon her system, that it became necessary to give her ~~from a pint to a quart of~~ several glasses of spirits to keep her alive. It was remarkable they never intoxicated her, nor did she ever taste them at any other time. I have known an instance of Epilepsy being induced by a loud clap of thunder in a little boy in this city.

3 Thunder & lightning induce diseases by altering the temperature of the air. They generally render it cool or cold. I have known the Colera morbus induced by them when they have acted in this way.

4 There is a sensibility or idiosyncrasy in some people which renders them liable to disease, while ~~the air is electric~~ the clouds are passing over them charged with electricity, but which do not discharge any part of it in an audible or visible

V. She was right in her prediction. The thunder ceased from that moment.

manner. I croped the ocean with a lady who could always tell when ~~with~~ the clouds were ~~air was~~ filled with electrical matter by feeling a head ach. ~~There prove a~~ One day after several successive claps of thunder, and after the sky became serene, ~~and every thing indicated the Gust to be over,~~ I descended from the Deck of the Ship into the Cabin & told her the Gust was over. "you are mistaken" said she, "for I still feel my headach." while we were conversing, a ~~clap cloud~~ clap of thunder bursted over the Ship. "now said she - we shall have no more thunder. for my head ach is entirely gone". This ~~new~~ new & peculiar sense of ~~electric~~ an approaching gust thunder in the human body is given to ~~beasts~~ some animals. the leech ~~exhibits~~ discovers it by certain peculiar motions in the water. ~~before a thunder Storm~~ while it is approaching. [The famous poet Mr Cowper

Count Stolberg in his travels mentions a still more extraordinary effect of an earthquake that occured at Oppido in Italy on the 5th of Feb: 1783. He says the two following years ~~he says~~ the women either did not conceive at all, and that all such as did conceive had abortive, or dead children, or children that died soon after their birth. ~~Was this the effect of tumor in a Chronic or protracted fever, or of an unwholsome ~~vapour~~ gas left in the air by the opening of the earth?~~ But further Dr Boerhaave mentions that he once felt a giddiness in his head while standing in a crowded floor in Leyden during the time of an earthquake. The same happen with a sensation like an approaching apoplexy, attended

Often beguiled his melancholy by observing them.]

I have not found that the Aurora Borealis has ever produced any disease, but many diseases are ascribed to Earthquakes. They act in two ways, 1 by the terror they excite, and 2 by the exhalations from the openings they have in the earth. The great earthquake in Jamaica I find formerly in the close of the 17th Century was followed by a pestilence ~~fatal echa~~ from this cause, ~~off thousands~~ which ~~lation from the heads of the thousand~~ ~~peoples~~ carried off three thousand people.

Fever in excess or disproportioned to the excitability of the System has often produced both general & local diseases. The noise of fire arms seldom fail of producing a transient fever upon the breast of a battle. It is felt in a frequent pulse - a dry, or clammy mouth, and a burning sensation in the eyes. ~~The ravages of bells has been known to~~

with Sickness at stomach were felt by many people during the Earthquakes that occurred on the Mississippi in Decem^r 1811. These morbid phenomena were probably induced partly by terror, ~~but~~ and partly by the motion of the earth, ~~and perhaps by~~

V in the streets, never failed to produce profuse heats in a patient of mine who was ill with a pulmonary Consumption. The

~~being an premature parturition~~ The firing of Cannon Dr Thompson says has induced Syncope & death in the last stage of Scurvy. It has in one instance brought on death in a Child Subject to Epilepsy. The ringing of bells has induced abortion. The rattling of carriages & the cries of children & the barking of dogs ~~& the noise~~ of chimney sweeps in the streets, have often induced relapses & perhaps death in fevers. The noise of a horse's feet has excited a paroxysm of Epilepsy - and lastly two instances have occurred within my knowledge of deafness being induced ~~by~~ in soldiers of the Artillery ~~of~~ ~~fires~~ by the firing of Cannon, the one in a naval, the other in a land engagement.

Of the influence of the heavenly bodies upon ~~the~~ health & life.

In ancient & modern times there has existed a Science known by the name of Astrology. It taught that the planets influenced the texture of the body and the nature of the mind so much at birth as to determine the future con=duct and destiny of every person that came into the world. The influence of the planets was not confined to the fate of man. It was supposed to affect all the material creation & particularly to be the cause of pestilential diseases. All evils are the results of misap==prehended, perverted, or of unduly ~~un~~

~~partially~~ extended truths. The errors of the Astrologists are ~~the effects proceeded from~~ of this rating. ~~truths~~. They have ~~only~~ extended ~~that truth too far in ascribing~~ an imaginary morbid influence to all the planets over the body and mind of man, ~~they should be~~ which should have been confined wholly to the Sun - moon, and over earth, the influence of each of which has been acknowledged by physicians in all ages & countries. ~~of the~~ I shall therefore make a few remarks upon each of them.

I have already spoken of the morbid effects of the Sun upon the body as far as it is the source of heat. It remains now to mention the effects of its light, and of the darkness induced by ~~its~~ the absence of its light in the production of diseases.

1 The excess of the light of the sun produces inflammation in the eyes, also temporary blindness. The latter disease is called Nyctalopia. In Russia it is called Yem blindness. Patients affected with it see only in the night. In cold countries the reflection of the sun's rays from the snow is sometimes so great as to produce not only inflammation of the eyes, but an inflammation of the skin of the face. I have ~~read an account of~~ met with two cases of headach coming on with the rising & going off with the setting sun. In habits rendered irritable by disease, ~~or luxury~~, the stimulus of the light of the sun is often a painful impression. Luxury ~~too~~ sometimes ~~to~~ produces the same excitability ~~to~~ of the system to the stimulus of light, hence we read that

the Roman ladies ~~in the~~ often fainted ~~from~~ or were convulsed from the sudden action of light upon their bodies.

The absence of the sun, or darkness sometimes produces temporary blindness from the want of the stimulus of light. I formerly mentioned two instances of wakefulness from this cause. It certainly reduces the frequency and force of the pulse, and of course cannot fail of producing serious effects upon the system when it at par or below it in arterial and nervous diseases. ~~But Dr. Tourtelle has mentioned an experiment from in which it~~ Even the momentary intercepton of the rays of the sun by a cloud, has been known to increase the pains & dangers of a yellow fever according to Dr. Lining, and where is the Hypocondriac patient who

is not made worse, by a dark & cloudy day? It is in part owing to the debility in-
-duced by the abstraction of light that disease so often make their first attack in the night, and that so great a proportion of deaths occur in the night. Even the color of the skin is affected by darkness. hence the pallid faces of persons who spend their days in dark kitchens, or who live in a scanty light. But Dr Tourtelle has mentioned an experiment from which it appears probable that the influence of darkness is not confined wholly to the arte-
-rial & nervous systems. ~~but that the perspi-~~
~~-ration is affected by darkness of light~~ the absence. He exposed two vessels half filled with water to the light of the moon when it was in its greatest splendor. One of these vessels was

protected from its direct rays by means of an Umbrella. The other was uncovered. At the end of nine days, the uncovered vessel had lost two lines, & the $\frac{1}{16}$ of a line of its depth of water, from the influence of the light of the moon upon it. From this fact it would seem that the waporation from our bodies, that is perspiration is liable to increase and diminution from the presence, or absence of light, and of course that the latter may predispose them to disease, or become its exciting cause.

2 The influence of the MOON is felt by the inanimate, as well as the animate Creation. Water, air & vegetables are affected by it. The animated part of Creation from man down to the oyster discover marks of its influence. The latter is always more fat when the moon

is full than at any other time. In the healthy state of the body we are seldom sensible of any lunar influence, but in Sickness, in which new senses seems to be opened, or the common senses to be endued more exquisitely sensible, its influence is felt in the most obvious manner. I shall briefly mention the Diseases in which this influence is most perceptible. They are

1 Intermittent fevers. Diemerbroek long ago remarked that more people sickened & died with the plague, three days before, & three days after the full & change of the moon than at any other time. Dr Balfour confirmed these remarks in the fevers of Bengal. Mr Holloway chaplain to the British legation at Constantinople says the same thing occurs in the plagues in that city. These remarks have been confirmed in

the West Indies by Dr Jackson & in Bestbie upon the ~~Conti~~ American Continent by Dr Pinkard. They have been further established in this city in the yellow fever of the year 1797, as you may see mentioned in the history of the fever of that year in my inquiries.

2 Dr Moseley says Hæmoptysis generally returns at the full & change of the moon. He mentions an instance of it in a British Officer. ~~in~~ In the year 1804 I met with two instances of this disease within those lunar periods – the one, the 2nd day after a full moon – the other the day after it was full.

3 I have known one instance in which the paroxysms of the Gout occurred only at the full & change of the moon.

4 Dr Kirkpatrick asserts that parturition is hastened by a full moon. This was admitted by the ancient Romans – hence the ~~words~~ moon of

was invoked by the name of Lucina to preside over & facilitate the birth of children. "Casta fave Lucina, nomen tua templaque ingreditur sacerdos." Tibullus.

5 Dr Haller quotes from Benedictus Sylvaticus the history of a calculous patient who always felt ~~worst~~ pain during the increase, & none during the decrease of the moon.

6 Madmen ~~it is said have more violent~~ are subject to paroxysms of derangement ~~at~~ at the full moon. This fact is so well established, that the disease has required the name of lunacy from it. Even the mind in irritable habits sometimes loses its ordinary tranquility from lunar influence. I once had a patient in this city who was remarked by his wife to be more passionate & ill humoured when the moon was full than at any other time. ~~Suicide it is said is often influenced by the phases of the moon.~~

7 Epilepsy & Asthma discover marks of lunar

V I Dr Mosely says more people die during the three days before, and after the full moons, and on those days, than at any other times, and produces a long list of distinguished men who died within those periods. [It is possible the moon may have had an influence in these cases, but we must recollect the chances are equal to its being so, from the lunar days being the same as the non lunar days in every lunes month, that is twenty eight] I have kept an account for several years of the relation of the days on which my patients die to the full and change of the moon, and have generally found the number nearly the same on lunar & non lunar days. It is possible

influence. Dr Tavicen an Italian physician relates the case of the latter disease in which the paroxysms always ~~always~~ came ~~on~~ on just before a new & full moon.

& worms are more troublesome during the human period, particularly when it is full than at any other time.

I have thus stated the principal facts relative to the influence of the moon in diseases. ~~The~~ It has been generally ascribed ~~the~~ to a change in the density ~~rarefaction~~ of the Air, and particularly to its rarefaction during ~~the~~ the greatest influence of the moon. But if this were ~~the case~~ is only cause, we should see similar changes in diseases from similar changes in the Air every time they took place. From many circumstances I am disposed to ascribe the influence of the moon in diseases chiefly to the greater or less portions of

this would not the case if the ~~were which~~ Deaths from ~~proceed~~ chronic Diseases could be seperated from such as were acute, for the effects of the moon are felt chiefly by the latter Diseases.

light reflected by her upon our Globe, acting upon the body according to its varied predisposition to be affected by them. We have taken notice of effects of a more sensible nature from the ~~light of the sun~~ presence, ~~or~~ and absence, ~~or~~ and even from the diminution of the light of the sun. The late Dr Hutchinson declared after five years residence in our hospital that he never had seen any remarkable changes in ~~maniacal~~ the maniacal patients at the lower periods, & Dr Halsam I shall say hereafter has said the same thing of the maniacs in Bethlehem Hospital in London. He ascribes all those changes in madness which have been ascribed to lunar attraction wholly to different portions of light acting upon the System. One of the apothecaries of ~~the~~ our hospital ass^d Thornton

V Dr Lind tells us that in a fever which prevailed at Bengal in the year 1762 of which 30,000 Natives & 800 Europeans died, all who recovered had relapses during an eclipse of the moon.

to whom I committed this Question for his observations agreed perfectly with Dr Hutchinson & Mr. Halsam in ~~his~~ the result of them, and as a proof that light was the cause of most of the changes in madness, he said he had uniformly observed the maniacs to become quiet & silent with the going down of the sun & to become noisy with the dawn of light. They all became suddenly silent during the partial darkness ~~with the~~ produced by the eclipse of the sun of the 16th of June 1806.

3 Eclipses of the ~~sun &~~ moon and sun have been observed to act more powerfully upon the body than the moon in her ordinary revolutions. The famous Lord Bacon used to faint when the moon was eclipsed. Ballonius says many sick people died suddenly during an eclipse of the moon on the 21st of January 1693.

The learned Beza died at the instant of an eclipse of the sun. Baglivi tells us that he found ~~his~~ the pulse of a patient to become suddenly irregular during the eclipse of the sun; and that he was at the same time affected with vertigo by it. But Dr Grainger relates a still more extraordinary fact under this head. He says in the year 1764 four & twenty British Soldiers then in Holland were seized with intermittents on the day of the eclipse of the sun. The mercury fell 1/8 in the Thermometer & ~~the~~ rose several degrees in the Barometer on the day of the eclipse of the sun just now mentioned in this city, and in the town of Boston. Cattle retired to their sheds, & fowls to their

roasts, and the madness of our hospital as I just now said, became suddenly silent, but I did not perceive the least change in the diseases of any of the patients I was ~~at~~ then attending, at the time, nor after it.

Upon the subject of the influence of these eclipses upon the human body, I am disposed to ascribe them chiefly to the sudden abstraction of the stimulus of light. Perhaps the terror inspired by them may have aided that cause. It is certain ~~such~~ this effects were more common in the infancy of our astronomical knowledge, & when ~~they~~ it was ~~was~~ blended with a good deal of superstition, than they are at present. The only recent instance I have mentioned of the morbid effects of an eclipse was in a member

Dr Currie says 1/14 more febrile patients are admitted into the Infirmary of Liverpool at those periods, than before or after them, and the celebrated Mr Richardson (author of Sir Chas Grandison & other popular novels) complains in one of his letters ~~lately~~ to Dr Young lately published, of suffering unusual Distress from a nervous diseased state during the ~~Equinoxes~~ equinoxes. All these morbid Affections of the body

of soldiers who are generally ~~[illegible]~~ persons of little education, and much disposed to superstition.

3 The body feels in disease the annual & diurnal revolutions of our earth. Dr Darwin has remarked Apoplexies & palsies to be more frequent about the Vernal & Autumnal equinoxes than at any other times of the year. ~~Perhaps this~~ may reasonably be ascribed to the greater fluctuation of the weather between heat & cold, moisture & dryness, calms & winds that take place ~~at~~ ~~those two~~ in the months of March and September.

The Diurnal Revolutions of the earth have been supposed to be the cause of the increase or exacerbations of fevers in the evening. It is certain the pulse becomes more

frequent than natural between the hours of 9 and 12. I took notice of this formerly in speaking of the changes which the pulse underwent in the course of my ~~sick~~ day and night. ~~Barom. Thermometer has~~ It has been observed I said formerly ~~was~~ to rise and fall in its frequency with the rising & falling of the mercury in the Barometer. ~~Towards the influence of the~~ It was in consequence of observing the uniform influence of the evening upon health that Dr Darwin has elegantly called it the "Autumn of the day." The fact is of great practical application. It should lead us to consider the system in all chronic diseases. & even in chronic debility as in a state of exacerbation, or of morbid excitement in the

evening, ~~and~~ and to forbid labor, exercise, and company in such cases. Dr Sydenham ~~was~~ went further by advising his patients to go to bed early in chronic diseases, & wakefuls. It was probably from observing the bad effects of ~~late hours~~ sitting up late upon his patients without knowing that they originated in a law of the animal oeconomy imposed upon it by the motion of the earth.

go to p. 158 of No ~~88~~ 21